Foster W. Rice P.O.Box 116, Rowayton, Conn.
~~October~~ Dec 1,1960.

Susan B. Anthony. Lithographs by Kihn & Co. N.Y. $2.00 each

~~Arte De Escribi. MDCCCll. (Book on script writing)~~

~~Lithograph 13 x 18 in. The Manual Alphabet for the Deaf & Dumb. Published by Harvey Hatch(Deaf & Dumb) (1854).~~

The Battle of Bunkers Hill. 26 1/2 x 32 in. From painting by J. Trumbull Engraved by James Milan. $10..
Other smaller copies priced from $2.00 and up.

200 Book Plates 1895 by McDonald.

Advertising cards of Kin & Co. Engravers.

Barry & Coughlin. Original wash drawings and sketches, proofs.

Backman's South Beach S.I. The Bachmann Brewery. Litho 23 1/2 x 29 1/2 in Colorful. Al condition. Lith by Kihn & Hall N.Y. $15.00

~~Bargaining for a Horse , Engraving by Burt, 11 x 14 in. Painted by Mount.~~

Proof Stock & Bond Certificates, insurance policies, mining, oil, Railroads. American, National, Continental and Western Bank Note Co's.

Boston. Proof engraving of garden at Wellesley, Eng by James Smillie.

200 Proof business cards, liquor, Tobacco, banks, New York State,NYNCity.

Coats of Arms. Colored Lithos. Satterlee, Connor, Snow, Churchill, Cary, Van Voorhees, White, Stokes, Barron, Page.

Walter Cox. Sihned litho "Woods and Fox scenee. 181x 14 in. From painting by H.M. Page. 1885..

Democratic Convention. Proof Tickets. 1924. 1 sheet 16 @ $35. Single copies $3.00 each.

Felix O. Darley. Misc. Proof Vignettes, Indians and scenes.

~~The Deer Pass. 32 1/2 x 52 in. Framed. Painted by Edwin Landseer Engraved by Thomas Landseer. (Goats on Cliff). Maple frame. $10.00~~

Nelson Leaving Portsmouth, for Trafalgar. Colored Litho. 33 1/2 x 44 in. Framed. Matted to 20 1/2 x 31 1/2 in. Colored. $15.00

~~"The Streights of Bellechulish". 35 1/2 x 49 1/2 in Framed. Painted by Rosa Bonheur. Mottram Sculp. $10.00~~

Centennial of 1876 . Phil. Plate proofs of Certificate of Award. 20x28 in. Engraved by Alfred Jones and Charles Girsch. Lot. $50.00
Also many smaller vignettes by Jones & Girsch.

Century Gallery of Prints. 1 Remington. Seven others.

John F. Dryden. Steel engraving 17 1/2 x 14 in. Peter Hall. Proof.

Large misc. steel engravimgs of Gen. Logan, Grant, Dewey, McClelland. 16 x 11 in.

Deer Stalkers. Engraving 14 x 18 in. Painted by Landseer, engraved by Finden

English Engravings. Large folds by Willmore, Doo, Smith, Rolls etc. Boats and battle scenes, Harbors etc.

American Eagle and Flag. 14 1/2 x 16 1/2 in. Proofs, John A Lowell & Co. Boston.

Engravings and Lithos of. Karl Marx, Andrew Carnegie, Jasper Morgan.

St. Louis Exposition. 1884. Colored Litho, Buildings, vinettes, 24 1/2 x 34 1/2 in. Copyright J.H. Turner. W.F.Clark Del. $20.00

A.B. Frost. Lithos; Getting Even, A Runaway Match, Talking Politics, Home for the Holidays. The Congressman's Day of Reckoning.

~~Fire Items. Proofs; Fireman of Hoboken, State of New Jersey. Des. by J. Oertel. (3) . Small lithos N.Y. 1858. Cert. Westchester County New York 1872. Washington Fire Engine Co. #1. N.Y. 1877. Allegorical proof Firemen. Exempt Certificate, Mt. Vernon N.Y. Litho.~~

Gas Tank Refinery (?N.J.) Wash Drawing 13 x 18 in. Probably painted by Marcus Baldwin, bank note engraver. $25.00

Geological Atlas. of U.S. Phillipsburg Folio, Montana. F.C. Collins and W.H.Edmonds. 1915. Large folio. 24 x 18 in.

Frederick Girsch portfolio. Misc. engravings, prints, also by Alfred Jones, W.H. Edmonds, J.W.Casilear and Charles Burt.

Original photograph 19 x 15 1/2 in. Horace Greeley & Whitlaw Reid, By Bergadus & Bendaur. $10.00

General Society Mechanics & Tradesmen. Printed by Brother Samuel Maverick. Reprints. Al condition.

Abraham Lincoln/ Engraving 20 1/2 x 16 in. Painted and eng.by Wm Marshall.

Gen U.S. Grant. 21 x 16 in. Painted and engraved by Wm Marshall.

The Imprudence of Candaules King of Lydia. 15 x 11 plate, London 1787 Proof. T. Strutt Sculp't Large margins. $5.00

~~Lithograph. Lowell & Co. Boston. A Fishing Party. 18x14 in. Cardboard.~~

Lincoln. Misc. engravings, Lincoln and son Tad. 18 x 24 in.

Maine. Proof engravings. Metropolitan Steamship Co., Union Mutual Life Insurance Co., State of Maine Certificate. ABN Co.

New York. State-,City Small Lithos by Valentine. Early views etc.

Thomas Nast. Misc. sketches . (6)

New Jersey Coat of Arms. Wash Drawing, water color. 14 x 19 in.
(? Marcus Baldwin or R. Ostrander Smith. $25.00

New Jersey, Certificate 14 x 17 in. Port. Marcus Ward. ABN Co. 1886.
Proof Cert. Metropolitan Steamship Co. card. 12, x 8 in.

Nordden tscher Lloyd S.S.Co. Large black & white engraving suitable for coloring. 17 1/2 x 35 1/2 in. Eng. by John . Lowell & Co. 1889. Boston.

Pennsylvannia Coat of Arms. Wash Drawing water color, 14 x 19 in.
Ins. Meyner. probably painted by M. Baldwin or R. Ostrander Smith.$25.00

Pheasant Shooting. The Last Drive. C.W.Wlymper Painter. Etcher Frank Paton.
12 1/2 x 19 1/2 in. Large borders. Soiled. $5.00

Black Game. Painted by Richard Ansdall, Engraved by W.T. Danney.

Pheasant. 12 x 22 1/2 in. wide borders beyond plate. From the original Picture in the possession of J.B. Nelsom Esq. Liverpool. Richard Ansdell Eng. George Thompson. March 1852. Pub. by Owen Bailey. $10.00

Presidents of U.S. Portraits engravings; Harding,Coolridge, Grant, McKinley

Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Smillie. Misc. proof engravings.

Rhode Island. Proof Certificate 14 x 18 in. Roger Williams Monument Association. vignettes.

Republican Convention 1908. ~~18~~ 8 proof and specimen tickets. 1908. 50.00
Coupons attached. Vignette of Lincoln. Western Bank Note Co. Lot $~~75.00~~

Rice Paper proofs on cardboard. Misc. allegorical and Hist. scenes.18x24in.

~~Rural Cemeteries of America. Ill. 14 1/2 x 11 1/2 in. Booklets.~~
~~Greenwood and Mt. Auburn Cemeteries. Proofs on large cards.~~

R. Ostrander Smith. Various original sketches, wash drawings, pencil.

James Smillie. Misc. proof engravings. Indian Scenes, Buffalos etc.

James Smillie. Proof Engravings. Washington Headquarters (10 x 14 in.
Retreat from Long Island. Mount Washington. Dover Plains. Phillips Mansion, Yonkers. Crystal Palace.

James Smillie. 4 large proofs of Voyage of Life. Painted by Thomas Cole and engraved by James Smillie. Signed. Smillies own copies.

The Capture of Major Andre. 13 x 18 in. Painted by A.B. Durand. Engraved by Alfred Jones. Landscape by Smillie & Hinchelwood. Proof copies.

James D. Smillie. Proof eng. Hail Columbia. Horses and globe. 11 x 13 in.

Wm C. Smillie. Proof lettering 1840 19 12/x 14 in. scarce.

Tammany Hall Convention July 4,1868. Colored Litho 13 x 18 in. Rogers. $5.00

Telegraph. Lithograph. John P. Oertel 1853. 13 x 16 1/2 in.
Printed by Nagel & Weingartner. N.Y. (Fair condition in margins)

Battle of Trafalgar. Proof engraving 14 x 21 in. Painted by Stanfield
Engraved by W. Miller. Fine, large borders.

Die Helden der Rovulution. 18 1/2 x 24 1/2 in. Washingtonand his Generals
Engraved by Frederick Girsch. N.Y.

George Washington. 15 misc. engravings, busts, full lengths etc.
Large 12 x 18 engravings painted by Geo. Marshall Eng by Geo. Marshal

/ George Washington, 29 x 34 in. in oval. Framed and unframed. ~~1 copy marked to James Smillie. Signed.~~

World's Fair. Chicago. 1893. 6 Sepia views. 22 1/2 x 32 1/2 in. Fine.
Buildings, lagoons etc. Large card borders.

H. Wilkins & Co. Baltomore, Md. 23 x 35 in. Color print. Ocean scene
with boat. Advertisement Smoking Tobacco. Seal of Virginia. $10.00

Youth's Companion. Worlds Fair issue. Chicago 1893. Pictures of World's
Fair buildings as shown in item (two above).

Misc. books. World's Fairs. St Louis, Chicago. Hudson Fulton, N.Y.
Columbian Exposition etc. Brochures.

Misc. small engravings, portraits, scenes, buildings, cities etc.
(Priced from twenty five cents to $5.00)
(Also filed according to artists and engravers.).

Prices not mentioned furnished upon request.

Photo Darley Printing $20.00

FOSTER W. RICE

28 Reton Ave., **P. O. Box 116**

ROWAYTON, CONN.

Phone - NORWALK TE 8 - 8110

December 4,1960.

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Ass't Vice Pres. & Sect'y
Edison Bros. Store Inc.,
400 Washington Avenue
St Louis 2 Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:-

My good friend Dr. Julian Blanchard of New York City has given me your name and address and suggested that I quote to you; A/Treatise/ on Counterfeit, Altered, and Spurious/ Bank Notes/ ** Illustrated with Original Steel, Copper, and Wood Plate Engravings/ By E.J.Wilbur & E.P.Eastman/ Poughkeepsie N.Y. /1865. This book is in extra good condition, containing five plates and bound in the book at the end are 10 pages "Chapter 3 Making Money. American Bank Note Co." with many wood cuts of the ABN Co. I have it priced at $25.00.

I am the great-grandson of Nathaniel Jocelyn, a portrait artist and one of the founders of the American Bank Note Company. He was the originator of the name of American Bank Note Company in 1854, and four years prior to the present ABN Co. I am one of JB'S"partners in the crime" of collecting old bank notes vignettes etc. I see him often in New York City. I too, have done much research on all of the bank note engravers and accumulated some of that material connected to them.

If you are interested in the above quoted detector, kindly advise me and it will be mailed to you on approval.

Respectfully yours,

Foster W. Rice.

December 7, 1960

Mr.Foster W.Rice
P.O.Box 116
Rowayton, Conn.

Dear Mr. Rice:

It was very friendly of Dr. Julian Blanchard to suggest that you write to me with respect to the 1865 book you have on counterfeit paper. It so happens that I have this identical book with the American Bank Note Company history bound in the back, just as you have.

I, like you, spend a great deal of time collecting and studying banknotes and Mr. Blanchard has been most helpful to me in the past.

Please feel free to submit anything to me you wish to dispose of and I will be delighted to have the opportunity of acquiring it.

Cordially yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

CC: Dr. Julian Blanchard
1 Sheridan Square
New York 14, New York

FOSTER W. RICE

28 Roton Ave., P. O. Box 116

ROWAYTON, CONN.

Phone - NORWALK TE 8 - 8110

December 11,1960.

Mr. Eric T.Newman, Assistant Vice-Pres
& Secretary
Edison Brothers Stores Inc.,
400 Washington Ave.,
St.Louis 2 Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

A few hours after the receipt of your letter of the 7th., I was looking over an old scrap book and noticed the enclosed lithographed card of The St.Louis Beef & Canning Co. Soaking it off of the page I noticed the name of "H.I.Newman" as President. Could this be one of your ancestors?. While I have not seen JB since I wrote to you last,if I remember correctly you are in the chain store business; of what nature I do not know. While this item seems to be the only business advertising card of St. Louis;I have many others of New York and elsewhere. If this is anything that you can use,I believe it is worth about $2. Strange that I should find it just at this time.

While I do not want to impose myself upon you at this busy holiday season perhaps you would find time to go over the list and photos that I am enclosing herewith. I am prompted mainly by the fact that I may have one St. Louis item that would be interesting to you,ie: a very fine lithograph of the St. Louis Exposition of 1884. This would be quite suitable to frame and hang in one of your offices. I have also enclosed some other photographs which explain themselves. The two samples of proof political items are of bank note design. All of these items are the overflow of my ambitions in collecting state chartered bank notes and vignettes.

All of this material can be returned at your leisure, with the exception of the Beef Canning item which you can retain if you wish to do so. While I do have a few duplicate bank notes and vignettes I presume that you have them all. At some time after the holidays I will send you a few specimens of my altered and raised notes which are quite interesting in this hobby of banknote collecting.

Respectfully yours,

Foster W. Rice.

December 14, 1960

Mr. Foster W. Rice
P.O.Box 116
Rowayton, Conn.

Dear Mr.Rice:

Thank you for your letter of December 11, 1960, which I am sure will bring mutual benefit to both of us.

As far as the beef canning item is concerned it is probably more likely that one of the cows being canned was related to me than H. L. Newman but I am checking up on this item.

There are a number of other items which I feel that I can use. I am enclosing my check for $20 for the 1884 St. Louis Exposition lithograph and suggest that you do not mail it to me until after the Christmas rush. At the same time you can send me, on approval, a group of the other items on your list, as follows:

Philip Darley - Miscellaneous proof vignetts, Indians and scenes

Frederick Girsch - portfolio - if it has any banknote vignettes

Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Smillie - miscellaneous proof engravings

James Smillie - Miscellaneous proof engravings of Indian scenes and buffaloes

William C. Smillie - proof lettering - 1840

Any other banknote type engravings.

I would appreciate having you quote me on the washed drawing by Darley of the sailor with the spy glass even though you indicate it was not used until after the State Charter bank period was over. You also indicate that you have the original painting. Are these the same, and what is the price of the item.?

Mr. Foster W. Rice

I am returning the Republican and Democratic National Convention items as I do not collect these at all. I am likewise returning the photographs of bonds and other items which are completely out of my field. You have many items in my field which we can go to work on.

Incidentally, in your group of engravings, if you have any of Mississippi Valley River scenes or boat or raft scenes on the inland rivers, my wife will be most interested in acquiring them.

I look forward to seeing your duplicate banknotes and altered and raised notes as I have quite a nice collection of the latter myself. In fact, altered and raised notes seemed to be the evening passtime of the early Americans.

I will return your list as fast as I can digest its contents.

Thank you for submitting these matters to me.

Cordially yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

FOSTER W. RICE

28 Roton Ave., P. O. Box 116

ROWAYTON, CONN.

Phone - NORWALK TE 8 - 8110

December 16,1960.

Mr. Eric P.Newman, Ass't Vice-Pres
and Secretary
Edison Brothers Stores Inc.
400 Washington Avenue
St. Louis 2 Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:-

This is to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th., and with the $20. check enclosed and for which I thank you. After the Christmas rush is over I will mail the lithograph to you which will be mailed in a roller. Possibly by this time you will find something in my list to add to it. At some future time some of the items will be mailed to you, but this would probably be a flat package. While I appreciate you sending me your check in advance in the future I believe it would be best to make sure that I still have the item on hand.

I had expected to go to New York to see Dr. Blanchard today but the weather is very bad and especially after the storm the first of the week. I am almost confined to quarters and thus have some time for writing.

First of all to simplify future communications and as I do not know the extent of your activities in collecting; I am making this letter in duplicate so that you can make your notations and return the extra copy to me. With my interest in all the engravers prior to 1878 I spent all last winter in compiling their data etc. This included the names of all the companies entering the ABN Co. in 1858 and the engravers connected with these companies. This work has been photographed by the American Bank Note Company and I am living in hopes that sometime it will be published by them or otherwise. For your reference do you have any of these books? A Hundred Years of Bank Note Engraving in the United States by Robert Noxon Toppan New York 1896.

A reprint of this edition was made in 1923 but in both there are many errors in facts.

In 1959 The American Bank Note Company published a very elaborate 100 yr. Anniversary of The Story of American Bank Note Co. This contains many reproductions from their original dies etc., but much of the data is in error. It was this publication that prompted me to correct some of their errors. This book is practically unobtainable, but was issued to their stock holders and the common demand has depleted their entire supply.

The "Bible" of authority on many of the engravers (of all kinds) is the New York Historical Society's Dictionary of Artists in America published by George C. Groce and David H. Wallace in 1957. If you are following bank note engraving, you should have this,positively. However,here again are some errors and many omissions.

Another good reference book is The Descriptive Register of Genuine Bank Notes by Gwynne & Day New York 1859 (or 1860). This is a valuable source of imformation in checking altered and counterfeit state chartered notes. I presume that you have a copy of this.

If you collect National Currency I suppose that you have "Paper Money of the United States by Robert Freidberg. 1959. While I do not extensively collect these notes. I do have a volume with some of the original notes and matching vignettes. I have made a good use of some of the Heath Bank Note Detectors by cutting them up (how horrible to some) pasting the reproductions together and thus making (marked) impressions of the original plates. This is quite a display to collectors.

My principle source of imformation for the art of the engravers is published in the "National Academy of Design Exhibition Records Vol.1, 2, by The New York Historical Society in 1943. Here many of the artists and engravers are listed with the year and title of their work. Many listing of bank note vignettes. These books are still available. (I believe $6.00) Mine were presentation copies from the author, Miss Bartlett Cowdrey.

In 1953 The New York Historical Society published a similar publication but for the records of the American Academy of Fine Arts and American Art Union. (also by Miss Cowdrey). Here are the listings of many other bank note engravers. These two volumes are still available ($7..oo). On page 158 there is a reproduction of The Jolly Flat Boat Men by G.C.Bingham . Two years ago I had one of these large prints but Yale University now owns it. (It came to me in my purchase of Smillie items).

Many articles on bank note engravers were published in the Collector's Club Philatelists from 1938 to 1946. By Clarence W. Brazer. While these records had many errors and much has been added to the imofrmation that are not too desirable at the present time.

While I do not know if you are or were a member of The Essay Proof Society many articles were published on bank note engraving from 1944 to the present time. Many of these articles are by Dr. Blanchard and two issues have my article on The Jocelyn Engravers. (1948) Some of these copies are still available. (Essay Proof Journal).

A number of articles have been published in The Numismatist and some articles on altered state bank notes. If you care for a list I will send it to you.

Fred B. Marckhoff published an article on Illinois State Bank Notes in the Autumn issue of The Illinois State Historical Bulletin but the reproductions are very inacurate.

I have some remainder copies of A History of Money & Banking in Connecticut by William F. Hasse 1958. While this is good reference book on Connecticut notes, here agian are errors in reproductions which are altered notes.

Have you heard of the PhilaMatic Center at Boys Town, Nebraska. This is the largest collection of paper money in the country. I have been there.

This will be all for now,
Sincerely
Foster W. Rice.

December 20, 1960

Mr. Foster W. Rice
P.O.Box 116
Rowayton, Conn.

Dear Mr. Rice:

I am sincerely grateful for the interest you took in writing to me in your letter of December 16. I have commented on the duplicate copy, as you suggested.

I would certainly like to obtain a copy of the Toppan book on 100 Years of Banknote Engraving. I also would like to have your articles on the Jocelyn engravers.

I have spent a great deal of time in collecting banknotes and gathering information with respect to them. Although I have helped other writers with respect to banknotes I have never done writing on that particular subject as my writing efforts have been more concentrated in the early American field. I am enclosing a reprint of an article I wrote on counterfeit Continental Currency and hope you enjoy it.

I certainly look forward to receiving some of the items which you would be willing to sell me.

I have the story of the American Bank Note Company published in Harper's Magazine, in 1862 and I presume you have this item in your library.

It might interest you to know that some of my paper money was on exhibit at Boys Town, Nebraska, when the Center first opened.

We are all snowed in now just as you are and if you are ever able to dig out please give Dr.Blanchard my best regards. He will certainly certify to my sincerity in collecting.

My very best wishes for the holidays.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

FOSTER W. RICE

28 Reton Ave., P. O. Box 116

ROWAYTON, CONN.

Phone - NORWALK TE 8 - 8110 Mon. eve. Dec. 26th. 1960.

Mr. Eric P. Newman, Ass't Vice Pres. & Sec'ty
Edison Brothers Stores Inc.,
400 Washington Avenue
St Louis 2, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

I have before me your letters of December 14th. and 20th., and the second copy of my letter to you of Dec. 16th., and with your red pencil notations. I will answer all as briefly as possible.

First, I saw Dr. Blanchard in New York a little more than a week ago, and he gave me some first hand imformation concerning your bank note activities. I do not know that you were such an experienced collector and authority. I have looked over your brochure on the early Colonial and Continental Currency, but frankly I must admit this era of currency is over my head somewhat. This past summer I worked for the New York Historical Society arranging their paper money collection. I worked backwards and left off with this era. It seemed so complicated especially on the matter of counterfeits etc. They have a full box of Colonial and Continental paper, and much of it on the New York Water Works. There were many photos of this item as someone has previously written on it, I believe for their Bulletin.

Your letter of the 14th.

I have already acknowledged the receipt of your check for $20. Thanks. The St. Louis Fair item is already in the roller (with other items) and it will be mailed in the morning: Tues. December 27th. I was attracted by the small vignette on your check and am enclosing an item in connection with it, and some notes on it. Later on I might sell this to you if you should care for it.

On the matter of the Felix O. Darley wash drawing or painting; This was appraised by a museum at $250. I can however,sell it for $200. but I am not anxious to do so just at this time. First, as it has only been identified as being sold to the Continental Bank Note Co. (The design of course) and just where it was used is uncertain. I presume now that it was used on a bond of some commercial company. I have seen a die proof of it and inscribed"Continental Bank Note Co. # 215". This proves that it was used on something. In a future edition of the Essay Proof Journal there is to be an article on Darley. On the matter of vignettes of Darley they exist in several forms; He made all the designs for J.F.Copper's illustrations and I have lose copies(on india) taken from this book. About six of these designs were used on bank notes. I only have one item of this nature as others got away from me years ago. I am sorry but we had better hold up on this matter till later on.

On the matter of Frederick Girsch, I am enclosing herewith two bank note vignettes engraved by him. His portfoilo includes items other than bank note work such as large colored items for calendars, portraits etc.

Dec. 14th Cont.

On the matter of the Rawdon, Wright Hatch & Smillie proof engravings I am going to leave this until later on. This is a subject all by itself and I do not have them all together at the present time.

On the matter of William C. Smillie, I only have one item. However,this is considered a rarity. When Glen Smedley wrote his article on Smillie in The Numbsmatist of July 1958, our only example of his lettering was found in a remnant of one of his religeous posters. He photographed it but it was never used. Since,I have found two complete copies of this and as it is of a religeous nature I will sell it for $10.

On the matter of James Smillie you can prepare for a deluge of material. I have made two purchases of this material and in both instances it involved the investment of several hundred dollars each time. Fortunately however,I am out of the red or at least will be when I have disposed of my present supply. This includes all kinds of items of the entire Smillie family, drawings, paintings, water colors,but mainly of original proof engravimgs taken from each of their portfolios. I did not get a single bank note vignette from either lot but have obtained some since. Dr. Blanchard, Barrett, and Smedley have obtained many items from me the past three years. This does not mean that the best is gone, but I have held tight some of the choice items. I have got to make a break soon with them. I am expecting to move next summer and have only recently decided to loosen up with them. This whole situation is not a matter of attempting to make money, but to place the material where it will be most helpful to some collector such as you are. [redacted]

While Mr. Smedley has given brief accounts of the Smillies in The Mumismatist in July 1958, You will get a clearer picture of this family of artists and engravers by going back to Mr. Thomas Morris articles publised;starting in The Essay Proof Journal of July 1944. While some of my material has come from him (which fact he does not want known) a large quantity has come to me otherwise and from Ridgefield, Conn., where one of the surviving heirs lived about 1900. This got into the hands of antique dealers about 1958.

Your letter of the 20th. and notes on my letter of the 16th.

Both editions of Toppan's 100 Years of Bank note engraving are scarce. I will watch for a copy for you.

I have a loose copy of Harpers article on ABN and it is also bound in the Eastman Bank Note Detector emntioned to you before.

Glad to know that you have a 1959 edition of the ABN Co. I have set aside a copy of my corrected chart on the records of the engraving companies. Will mail it at some time. (Soon)

Perhaps your local book dealer will have a copy of the Dictionary of Artists and engravers by Groce & Wallace. However the N.Y.Historical Society still has them. You could order it at the same time as the N.A.D. books.

Clooectors Club Philatelists are not available. I want some too.

Summary.

On Saturday December 24th. I mailed you an envelope and containing some m isc.
Reference items:
The Jocelyn Engravers. Reprint.
American Collector Magazine and two copies of Boys Town News. These to be returned at your leisure.

I am now mailing a tube containing the large print of St.Louis for which you have already paid me the $20. (parcels Post).

Also enclosed,is a steel engraving of The Declaration of Independence and priced at $15.00

1 Proof engraving of Hail Columbia Happy Land engraved by James and James D. Smillie. This is priced at $10. but I did not send the signed one as listed in my listing. If you prefer this you can return this one.

A steel engraving of Washington Irving engraved by M.I.Danforth which I am presenting to you as a gift.

I am enclosing herwith a listing of five pages of material. I have placed the prices at the right in pencil and on the left a check mark of the items I have mailed to you in a flat package, (parcels Post)

If you should decide to purchase a quantity of this material and $100. or over,you can take a discount of 20 %.

In this envelope I am enclosing:
1 Small Wash Drawing with note.
1 Photograph of $10. Stamford Bank note with note.
2 Remounted die proofs priced at $2. each. $4.00
4 Die proof Vignettes " " 3. " 12.00
Please note that the allegorical design is one of my own remounting and only resorted to when an original is unobtainable. Most of my vignettes of Darley and indians is of this same type. It is difficult to define whether or naot they are from an original die proof or cut from a proof note.
1 Check. Third Nat. Bank, St Louis. priced at $2.00
1 India proof of the Continental Bank of St. Louis. Price $3.00
This specimen is from my Joseph Claxton Collection and was engraved by Him.
9 Misc items,checks etc. Lot $5.00

Please return the enclosed list of five pages.

Finis

Sincerely yours,
Foster W. Rice
Foster W. Rice.

FOSTER W. RICE

28 Reton Ave., P. O. Box 116

ROWAYTON, CONN.

Phone - NORWALK TE 8 - 8110

January 4,1961.

Mr. Eric P. Newman Ass't Vice Pres. & Sec'ty
Edison Bros. Stores Inc.
400 Washington St. St Louis,Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:-

While I have not yet heard from you in response to the deluge of material I sent to you a little more than a week ago, I am taking this opportunity to mail you some items of a complimentary nature.

1. A 125th Souvenir of the National Bank & Trust Company of Fairfield County. On the front cover there are reproductions of some of the bank notes issued by their predecessor bank; The Stamford Bank. COnn. When opened it gives a map of the Long Island Sound area, and I have marked with a pencin where I live. You can retain it with my compliments.

2. A photostatic print of my work on the Historical Evolution of The American Bank Note Company. The original was typed with the red and black typewriter ribbon and thus does not show up in this print. This was made up by me and photographed by the American Bank Note Company about four months ago. It merely gives the lines of decendancy of the various bank note companies entering the ABN Co. in 1858. I also compiled another sheet which is twice this size, and it included the names and dates of the engravers associated with these companies. This was too large for photographing(and only one copy exists, which I have) but the information was copied to Three Holed note book size and brief biographies of the artists and engravers added. The names and dates are supposed to be correct on thhe photostatic print or chart, but if you have any proof to the contrary I would appreciate you advising me. For the present you can retain this for your reference. I am in hopes that some time in the future this will be published to amke it available to all that are actually interested in this history. You will note that it differs from The Story of American Bank Note Company just published.

I have set aside some vignettes for bank notes which I will mail to you after we have cleared up some of the pending matters. It will be less complication in this manner.

Respectfully yours.

Foster W. Rice

Foster W. Rice.

January 9, 1961

Mr. Foster W. Rice
P.O.Box 116
Rowayton, Conn.

Dear Mr. Rice:

I sincerely appreciate the effort you have taken to send me engravings which you have assembled and it was like a rain of presents with one coming almost in every day.

First, I must say that I appreciate the tremendous labor and devotion which went into the list of American Banknote Company predecessors. It is an outstanding piece of work and has cleared up several problems I had with the chart which they published. I congratulate you on the accomplishment and will gladly aid you in having it published if you want me to. Any of the coin magazines would be delighted to use it. I doubt if the A. B. Co. will publish it as it admits the chart they already published was incomplete and they are stuffy and probably could not admit an error. Let me know your thoughts. Thank you for the copy and it will not be used without your consent.

Due to my broad numismatic interests I have had to confine myself to that field and I hope I did not leave you the impression that I collect engravings. I am buying your City of St.Louis (tinted by F.W.R) cut out of Appleton's Picturesque America, and a vignette or so but as nice as the Seth Eastman, Wimar, etc. engravings are, they are completely out of my line as they are book illustrations. I would much prefer to buy vignettes prepared for banknotes, and look forward to the opportunity when you send them.

I am complying with your instructions as to returning your lists and other items. You are delightfully precise and I like to correspond with a person like yourself.

You generously gave me the portrait of Washington Irving. If I had bought more of the other items I gladly would keep it but I do not feel justified in doing so. I am nevertheless grateful.

Your comments about the New York Historical Society banknotes and Colonial notes will stimulate me to visit them again soon. I write them often on my research and they are most cooperative.

The banknote data of the Stratford Bank is most interesting. Fairfield County is close to my heart because I have vigorously studied the Fairfield County hoard of copper coins found in Stepney in 1951. It was in this hoard I found a 1776 coin which tied counterfeiting of English coppers near Newburgh, New York (Machin's Mills) with the Vermont and Connecticut copper coinage of 1787-8. The American Numismatic Society included my article on that subject in their Centennial Publication.

My check covering the St. Louis picture ($5) and three vignettes ($8) is enclosed. All items which I did not purchase are returned except the postal card advertisement of the St. Louis Beef Canning Company which I am offering the Missouri Historical Society if they do not have it.

Again, let me apologize for misleading you with respect to the confinement of my collection to numismatics. Please send me the vignettes for banknotes you have put aside for me as those are more than welcome.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

FOSTER W. RICE

28 Reton Ave., P. O. Box 116

ROWAYTON, CONN.

Phone - NORWALK TE 8 - 8110

January 16,1961.

Mr. Eric P. Newman Ass't Vice Pres. & Treas
Edison Brothers Stores Inc.,
400 Washington Street
St Louis 2 Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

This is to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th., with the check for $13.00 enclosed and for which I thank you. When I went to the P.O. this morning in the snow storm (we have them here too) I found the tube and package that you had returned to me.

I am sorry I caused you the inconvenience in having to re-wrap and mail them back to me. I sent them to you on the basis of the items that you mentioned in your letter of the 14th., and also as you had mentioned your wife's interest in Mississipi Valley River Scenes. No harm at all has been done. I sent two smaller shipments to Florida and Texas this last week and there are some items I did not have which I can now send to them.

To clear the records with you as it stands now. You have retained"The Jocelyn Engravers " brochure as you did not have the original copies of The Essay Proof Journals. That is O.K. You have also retained the photostatice copy of my work on the Bank Note Engravers which is O.K.also. I have checked all the items returned to me and that is O.K. with the exception that you may still have a list that I mailed to you before Dec. 14th., However,this is a small matter if you cannot locate it easily as it is obsolete. The reason why I sent you the Washington Irving engraving was because it was engraved by Moseley I Danforth who is the same Danforth that was so long connected with the Danforth line of engravraving companies. Other than bank note work I have much of the other works of these well known engravers. This knowledge is often helpful in studying each of their lives. I have been preparing an article on Casilear but it has now been sidetracked as there is a chance the E.P. Journal will take on the matter of publishing my "Antecedent Artists and Engravers, Associated with the Signers of The Articles of Association of The American Bank Note Company". I will give you something definite on this project in a few days. There is a meeting to-morrow night in N.Y .

I thank you very much for the name of Thos. Wyon as the probable designer of the bank note end vignette. I think you are quite right on it. It looks english and I would not be surprised to learn that Wyon was at some time connected with the Perkins, Heath or Fairman Perkins & Heath in London about 1820. Fairman specimes were in this same lot.

I have recently heard from D.O.B. and he has "Bawled me out" (as usual) for saying that I thought the reproduction of the $50. National Currency note labeled as a "Rare One". in the January Numismatist is a phoney. I still think it is. He does not know I have some of the india proofs that were used supplying the names of the different banks. They are quite symetrical and not crooked when added to the plate. (as this one is).

I will write you again in a few days. I expect to have an "orgy" with J.B. to-morrow. Sometimes,after I see him I give up hopes of finding matches for some of my vignettes,in which case I decide to dispose of them. However, it takes many vignettes and many notes to locate a match. While I have many in my permanent collection I have very few that I want to dispose of. After I have let one go I find the note to match it. I have one lot of about 35 bust portraits which I have had for five years (from the estate of Ourdan). I sent them to D.O.B. and others. This last week I identified three of these and all are on Connecticut notes.All were governors of Conn. A few days ago I was loaned a bank note vignette of some Mississippi River battle scene (? Battle of New Orleans) The dealer is asking $10. for it and I do not know whether or not to send it on to you. I will wait before doing so.

I suppose that you have some of the Specimen Sheets of the different engraving companies. I am reconstructing the large one of Toppan, Carpenter Casilear & Co. These,as you know are made with four plates and printed in quarters. I have four upper quarters and only two of the lower ones. Unfortunately two of the vignettes in the lower half have been cut out. Do you have any mutilated sections of this large piece. ? (any 1/4)

I have neglected to ask you if you have any duplicate bank notes especially thosefor Conn., and do you ever trade them. ?

I suppose that you got the idea of why I sent you the telephone book covers. It merely shows the use that can be made of these old bank notes .

I will write you again in a few days

Sincerely yours,

Foster W. Rice.

February 7, 1961

Mr. Foster W. Rice
28 Roston
P.O. Box 116
Rowayton, Conn.

Dear Mr. Rice:

Our Historical Society notified me that they are delighted to have the St. Louis Meat Packing card and therefore I am giving it to them and am enclosing my check for $2.00 to cover the same.

I am looking forward to the vignettes which you are going to send me and hope that the snow storms we have all been enduring have not completely bottled you up.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

Bank Notes wanted by Foster W. Rice, Rowayton, Conn.

Feb.11,1961.

Connecticut.

All banks,and especially those of Norwalk, Stamford and Elm City Bank of New Haven.

Georgia. $1.00 Marine Bank of Ga. Danforth, Wright & Co. imprint.
$5.00 Planters Bank, Savannah.

Illinois. $2.00 Toulon Bank. Toulon. Nat. B.N. CO.

Maine. $10. Orono Bank.

Michigan. $5.00 Bay State Mining Co. or Boston, Mass.

Minnesota. $10. Owatonna Bank.
$ 10. Bank of St. Paul.

Mississippi. $1., 2., 3. State Bank of Miss.

New Jersey. $5. Mount Holly Bank.

New York. $5.00 Wyoming County Bank. Warsaw.

Pennsylvannia. $2. Mechanics Bank of Phil. ABN Co.
$1.00 Bank of Germantown. ABN Co.
$5., 10. Farmers ~~Bank~~, Mechanics Bank. Easton.
$3. Bank of Pottstown. (Seward)
$1. Farmers Bank. Shippenburg.
$1.00 Central Bank. Imprint Danforth, Wright & Co. (Buchanan)
$20. Exchange Bank. Pittsburg. Pa. (Scott)
$1. Corn Exchange Bank of Phil. ABN C.(Scott)

Rhode Island. $5.00 Centerville Bank. Warwick.

Tenn. $50. State Bank of Tenn. Nashville. ABN C.
$2. Bank of Tenn. T.C.C. & Co.
$1. City of Memphis.
$3. Citizens Bank, Nashville & Memphis. (This probably only exists in proof. T.C.C. & Co.)

Vermont. $5. Rutland County Bank.

Virginia. $2. Radford Furnace Co. (Litho).

Wisconsin. $1.00 Shawnaw Bank. ABN Co.

Canada. $2. Deux. La Banque Jacques Cartier.

Haiti. $5. Banque National D'Haiti. ABN Co.

FOSTER W. RICE

28 Roton Ave., P. O. Box 116

ROWAYTON, CONN.

Phone - NORWALK TE 8 - 8110

February 12,1961.

Mr. Eric P. Newman, Vice-Pres., Sect'y
Edison Brothers Stores Inc.
400 Washington Avenue
St Louis 2 Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:-

I have intended to write you long before this but have become involved in so many projects and especially one of shoveling snow. Since writing you last I have completed the large specimen sheet of Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co., which came out very well and the imperfections are not prominent. I having it photographed for reference. I also bought some more proofs and including some that I enclose. I had hesitated on buying one(which I told you before)he had priced at $10. but it is enclosed at $5.00.

I enclose herewith;

L die proof of Joseph Brown, Mayor of St..Louis	Priced at	$5.00
1 Die proof Gov. T.C.Fletcher of Mo.		5.00
1 " " St. Louis		5.00
1 " " Mortar Boats		5.00
1 " " The St. Louis (Remounted)		5.00
1 " " State seal Missouri. N.B.N Co.		5.00
1 " " " " " " (small)		5.00
1 " " River boat scene. I am told that this is the Mississippi River and possibly Mobile. I do not know.		5.00
		$40.00

You can choose at these prices or the entire lot for $35.00

I am enclosing a list of some of the notes that I want. If you should have any listed in duplicate, could I buy or trade something for it?. I would like the return of the list.

Do you have any evidence that Robert Scot engraved any bank note?. The new American Bank Note Company publication refers to him as such. I have copies of his engravings from Hume's History of England (1797) and his records as engraving# dies for early coins, but so far no note can be attributed to him so far. Did he engrave any of the Colonial or Continental Currency?. Thank you for your help.

Sincerely yours,

Foster W. Rice.

P.S. It is probably unnecessary for me to remind you about giving out the imformation on the ABN Co. plat. One of my correspondents wanted it for The Coin World, but the Essay Proof Journal is probably printing it later on. FWR. This plat may be of help to you in checking the dates on some of the notes.

FOSTER W. RICE

28 Roton Ave., P. O. Box 116

ROWAYTON, CONN.

Phone - NORWALK TE 8 - 8110

March 8,1961.

Mr. Eric P. Newman, Vice-Pres Sect'y
Edison Bros. Stores Inc.
400 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

On February 12th. I wrote to youand enclosed eight vignettes. I have never received any reply as to whether or not you received them. Possibly this matter has been overlooked or you are absent from St. Louis. Please advise me.

Respectfully yours,

Foster W. Rice

Foster W. Rice.

March 15, 1961

Mr. Foster W. Rice
P.O.Box 116
Rowayton, Conn.

Dear Mr. Rice:

I have your group of items and the reason I have not replied is that I wanted to ask the Missouri Historical Society whether they were interested in any of them. Unfortunately, there is no connection with banknotes that I can find in this group of proofs.

I have no evidence that Robert Scot ever engraved any banknote. I do not have any proof that he engraved any Colonial or Continental currency but this matter is extremely vague as it is not clear whether Smithers, Gallaudet, or others made the cuts. Most of the early currency is type set, as you know.

I am fascinated by your statement that you have records that Robert Scot engraved dies for early coins. Do you have any information on what coins he engraved? I would be very appreciative if you would give me that information.

You will hear from me shortly and I apologize for the delay but it is for a good cause.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

FOSTER W. RICE

28 Roton Ave., P. O. Box 116

ROWAYTON, CONN.

Phone - NORWALK TE 8 - 8110

March 28,1961.

Mr. Eric P. Newman, Secretary
Edison Brothers Stores Inc.
400 Washington Avenue
St. Louis 2, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

[redacted]

In reply to your letter of the 15th., re: Robert Scot I am enclosing herewith two typed sheets which I copied from an unidentified clipping loaned to me. I think it may have been McKeels Weekley and sometime prior to January 30,1941. The article was written by James F. McGee Jr. An index might give the exact copy. There were reproductions of the coins among other# items connected to Scot.

However there is great confusion on the man Robert Scot and Scott as menticned by Stauffer. I do not believe he has it streight either. At any rate I see no connection in either Robert,as being an engraver of paper currency or the like.

Today I received my copy of the Essay Proof Journal with Mr. Morris' article on Darley. I spent a lot of time on this article and likewise Dr. Blanchard. I am now starting on the article I am preparing on the bank note engravers entering the Association of The American Bank Note Company in 1858. The introductory article will probably be in the next Journal.

Sincerely yours,

Foster W. Rice

Foster W. Rice.

P.S.

FOSTER W. RICE

28 Roton Ave., P. O. Box 116

ROWAYTON, CONN.

Phone - NORWALK TE 8 - 8110

April 16,1961.

Mr. Eric P. Newman Secretary
Edison Brothers Stores
400 Washington Avenue
St. Louis 2 Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

Could you spare a few moments and drop me a line and let me know if you found anything on Robert Scot as being an engraver on any form of paper money. Dr. Blanchard already has part of my manuscript for editing on the bank note engravers. The story will start in the next issue of the E.P.Journal. I have omitted all reference to Robert Scot to be on the safe side. However,if I should find some real clue it could be included. I was unable to connect him with any paper money or bank note engraving.

Has anything materialized on the matter of the vignettes mailed to you on February 12th ?. If not,I would like their return as soon as you can do so.

Sincerely yours

Foster W. Rice

Foster W. Rice.

April 18, 1961

Mr. Foster W. Rice
28 Roton Ave.
Rowayton, Conn.

Dear Mr. Rice:

The early records as to the mint do not show any payment to Robert Scot for doing anything. I have his gazateer. It is perfectly possible that he did some engraving for the Bank of the United States or for the government in some other capacity but certainly we are without evidence that he did anything on banknotes or coins.

The vignettes you sent me so long ago are at the Historical Society and I hope to hear from them shortly.

I read that some of your collection was on exhibit inConnecticut and I am glad to see our mutual friend, Dr.Blanchard, is going to publish more of your research work.

My very kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

April 24, 1961

Mr.Foster W.Rice
P.O.Box 116
Rowayton, Conn.

Dear Mr.Rice:

The Missouri Historical Society, to my great disappointment, only chose one of the items which I still have of your engraving proofs. I am enclosing herewith a check for $5.00 to cover the same and thank you, very much, for the opportunity of examining these. I am giving the item to the Historical Society.

From now on I hope you can send me some of the proofs found on the banknotes themselves and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

FOSTER W. RICE

28 Reton Ave., P. O. Box 116

ROWAYTON, CONN.

Phone - NORWALK TE 8 - 8110

May 2,1961.

Mr. Eric P. Newman Secretary
Edison Brothers Stores Inc.
400 Washington Ave. St Louis 2 Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

This is to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th of April and the check for $5. enclosed. Thanks. I also received the return of the vignettes not chosen .

Robert Scot

In one of previous letters I mailed you a copy of a newspaper clipping by James F. McGee Jr. which states " The original dies (for embossed stamp revenues) which he designed for Vermont are in the Historical Society at Montpelier, Vermont". I have just received this reply from them; "Miss Follette, our museum director, informs me that we have 18 dies that were used to stamp bills of enchange, licenses, commissions and bonds, and other documents during the stamp act passed by Congress in 1797. She is however, unable to ascribe these dies to Robert Scott (Scot).". Thus McGee has erred in his writeup of Robert Scot and so far there is no evidence that Scot engraved anything other than portraits with the inscriptions of "Scot & Aladice". I have omitted him in my data on bank note engravers.

My manuscript on the "Antecedants of the American Bank Note Company" has already been handed over to Dr. Blanchard for publication in the next Essay Proof Journal. Dr. Blanchard leaves in a few days for a trip abroad to England and Scotland. I am seeing him on Thursday at the Metropolitan Coin Show in New York City. May 5th to 7th.

Sincerely yours,

Foster W. Rice

Foster W. Rice.

FOSTER W. RICE

28 Roton Ave., P. O. Box 116

ROWAYTON, CONN.

Phone - NORWALK TE 8 - 8110

July 4,1961

Mr. Eric P. Newman, Secretary
Edison Brothers Stores Inc.
400 Washington Ave.,
St Louis 2 Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

A short while ago I purchased from one of the decendants of George W. Casilear a gift book (1874) of the Bureau of Engraving & Printing of die proofs which were used on all of the notes with that inscription. As you know George W. Casilear was the chief engraver for the bureau and this is a fine copy passed on to some member of his family. There are 146 india on cardboard (9 x 8 x 2 1/2 in.) die proofs and nicely bound.

There is a question in my mind as to whether or not I should break it up. Have you ever had one?. While I would probably fare better financially in so doing,as some of the vignettes are scarce, I hesitate to do so. The book in its entirety is probably worth $300. Roughly it can be described as follows:

It has 146 india proofs including the frontispiece.

About 60 of these vignettes can be matched with National Currency and at least ten of this sixty can be valued at $10. each or more. The sixty would average at least $5. each. Of the remaining 86 vignettes which mainly are portraits,about 36 would be of a common variety. Fifty however, would be of historical interest, Presidents, members of Cabinets etc.

Later,I can furnish you with a listing but first would you be interested in purchasing the entire book for $300.?. If you already have some of them you probably would like to choose some that you do not have. You can advise me.

The first installment of my writing on "Antecedents of the American Bank Note Company of 1858" is already on the way to the printers to be published in the summer issue of the E.P.Journal. They Spring issue is only being sent out and very late. No doubt you received your copy. However,I expect to have better reproductions. It will take two issues to complete the story. Dr. Blanchard is leaving on his vacation to Minnewaska on Saturday and I expect to see him there during his stay.

For the present I am keeping the gift book intact.

Sincerely yours,

Foster W. Rice

Foster W. Rice.

July 10, 1961

Mr. Foster W. Rice
P.O.Box 116
Rowayton, Conn.

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of July 4, to Mr. Newman. Mr. Newman is on vacation and your letter will be given attention upon his return to the office.

Very truly yours,

Mrs. Ann Barrett
Secretary to Mr. Newman

August 9, 1961

Mr. Foster W. Rice
P.O.Box 116
Rowayton, Conn.

Dear Mr.Rice:

I would be delighted if you could send me the engraving and printing book of die proofs for my examination. It is perfectly possible that I might wish to acquire it after seeing it. The portraits have very little value to me but the 60 vignettes will probably be most interesting.

I have been away on my vacation and for that reason was delayed in writing you.

I certainly look forward to your work on the Antecedents of the American Bank Note Company as I am sure that will be a very important contribution in numismatics.

Cordially yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

FOSTER W. RICE

28 Roton Avc., P. O. Box 116

ROWAYTON, CONN.

Phone - NORWALK TE 8 - 8110

August 11,1961.

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores Inc.
400 Washington Avenue
St. Louis 2 Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

In reply to you letter of the 9th., please be advised that I have already disposed of"The Bureau of Engraving & Printing"gift book to a dealer. As I am not sure as to whether or not he is breaking the book up I am refraining from giving you his name. When he last wrote to me he said he was keeping it for his library intact. I will drop him a line later telling him to get in touch with you if he should decide to break it up. This is the same protection I would have given to you had you have purchased it fromme.

In reading my original letter of the 4th. of July to you I possibly have ~~possibly~~ misled you on the contents of the book. Most of the portrait vignttes match the currency notes also.

Since I sold the book I have learned that The Numismatic Scrapbook for August has an advertisement by the Copley Coin Co. in Boston advertising another of these gift books with 100 vignettes for $500.

While I have never had one of these books before, perhaps another will come my way. However, I am curtailing a lot of my activities on account of failing eyesight which is "old age" and hardening of the arteries. I believe I saw an article in Coin World that you were going to be at the Atlanta Convention I regret that I will not be able to attend. From what I have heard nearly all the"big wigs"will be there. Have seen Dr. Blanchard several times lately and he is going to be there.

Sincerely yours,

Foster W. Rice

Foster W. Rice.

October 12, 1961

Mr.Foster W. Rice

28 Roston

Rowayton, Conn.

Dear Mr.Rice:

Bravo on your article in the Essay Proof Journal. I look forward to its continuation.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

February 26, 1962

I am pleased to order a reprint of your important book, for which check is enclosed.

From the desk of
ERIC P. NEWMAN

Dec 24 60

Mr Newman -

If you have the E.P. Journal of July & October 1948, please return this reprint, as I ~~[illegible]~~ only have one other copy.

However, if you do not, you can keep it with my Compliments.

F.W.B.

Mr Newman

FOSTER W. RICE,
~~20 ROTON AVE.,~~
ROWAYTON, CONN.

Please return (at some time) the two copies of Boys Town News and American Collector Magazine

F.W.B.

February 6, 1948

Mr. John M. Richardson
154 California Street
Stratford, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Richardson:

Mr. Norman Bryant, with whom I am corresponding with respect to Connecticut cents, told me that you would get a great kick out of knowing of another collector who is sincerely interested in Connecticut cents. I know that your collection is very large and that you are the American authority on these coins.

One of the things about which I am curious is the 1787 Miller 1(4)-WW, which I have in my collection and which I am advised is unique. It is pictured in Betts' book on counterfeit half pence. The reason I am so attached to it is that Liberty is facing the other direction and it is a major rarity as I see it. Would you be kind enough to tell me if you know of any other specimen. This one comes from the Dr. Hall collection.

I would very much like to obtain for my collection a 1788 Miller 1-I and wonder if you have a duplicate. I would also like to improve my 1787 reverse R which comes either in 15-R or 9-R. I will be glad to find something which you desire if we can work any kind of an exchange, or I will be glad to purchase either of them.

I am also looking for imitation English half pennies made in this country, or the combination of those half pennies with Vermont or Connecticut coinage. Do you have any duplicates of those?

I hope I do not inconvenience you by writing with respect to the foregoing, and I will appreciate hearing from you very much. I specialize in Colonial coins as a whole because I derive my greatest enjoyment from them.

Sincerely yours,

ANA 4624

EPNewman/me

154 California St.
Stratford, Conn.
Feb.12 1948

Mr, Eric P. Newman
315 Washington Ave.
St. Louis
Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

I was greatly pleased to hear from another devotee of my special hobby. Mr Norman Bryant and I have been close friends for some years now.and we each have a list of what the other has in the Conn. and Vermont collections.

I am afraid you are straining a point when you call me the American authority in the matter of Conn. cents, I may be wrong,but so far as I am aware I have the largest collection of die varieties of anyone here in New England now numbering 283.Many collectors have been able to put much more money for condition in their collection than I could.but as you will probably undrstand I have the whole gamut of the scale from poor, just enough for positive attribution to some very fine. Mr. Bryant is a much younger man and has the next largest collection to mine of any one I know, and he is even trying to get two of every die variety which is more than I can afford to try for. so I don't let that bother me.

Now in regard to what you mentioned in your letter. You without doubt have something UNIQUE. What a great pity it is that Betts did not have photographic reproductions instead of free hand drawings for illustrations. If the cuts had only been halftones from photographs no matter how crude the coins were, how vastly better it would have been. Personally I know of only two specimens of the 1788 1-I. Here is quite a coincidence, for in July 1944 Mr. Howard H. Kurth and I both secured this variety from Mr. Charles p.Knoth, It seems Mr Knoth was disposing of a large collection.but from what source I do not know. Mr Kurth's 1-I is a better specimen than mine, but mine has a not bad obverse, but the reverse is very poor ,just good enough for positive identification.I now have the three small head varities, 1787 1-A and 1-VV. The 1-A is a

beautiful specimen and the 1-VV shows the INDE ET LIB distinctly and I consider it pretty fair with these and the date, but Liberty is not very distinct. I stand as follows. 1785 24---1786 29---1787 197 and 1788 33 .

I am greatly interested in Vermont cents and my collection now stands Ryder Nos. 2---3---6---7---8---9---10---11---12---13---14---16---17---18 20---21---22---23---24---25---27---29---35. I have long wanted to obtain a VERMONTIS, Paul S. Seitz lists one in the Feb. 20 auction and I put in a bid, but probably I shall be unsuccessful.

There was a time in years gone by when I tried to collect from all thirteen colonies in regard to the little brown bills, but it proved too much of an undertaking and I "pulled in my horns" and have disposed of most everything except Conn. and Continental bills, I feel quite proud of the Continentals as I have a specimen of every denomination of every issue of the entire 110. besides a number of the blue singles and an uncut sheet of the Ssept 26 1778 in blue. beside a few contemporary counterfeits. My pet number in Continentals is No. 10 on a 5 July 22 1775. Can you beat that? In 1935 Mr. Wismer had number 930087 on a 2/3 dollar. Quite a difference.

My Conn. bills number I think about 80 varieties not including duplicates, but in the Oct. 11 1777 (little bills) I have tried for signatures, and with duplicates have succeeded in obtaining 15 of the 26 signatures. Conn. bills 1709 up to 1770 being practically unobtainable for rarity I have quite a collection of these being photostats which I consider far better than nothing, and have mounted them in a large scrapbook. I have no duplicates of the coins you mentioned, Do you know Mr. Howard H. Kurth of 557 Nott St. Schenectady, N.Y.? He is the man of whom you can get a lot of information about English half pennies both original and counterfeit. He is greatly interested in the subject of varieties of the old British counterfeits. I know of no other collector with the 1788 1-I except Mr Kurth and myself. I do hope to hear from you soon with details about your collections. You of course are a much younger man than I am. but even if I shall be 84 in June I am still in good health and have lost no interest in Conn. and Vermont cents.

Yours sincerely

John M. Richardson,

A.N.A. 12335

February 24, 1948

Mr. John M. Richardson
154 California Street
Stratford, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Richardson:

In spite of the fact that you are almost 84 years of age I am sure you realize that with hobbies such as ours we can live indefinitely. I am 36 but have collected for 25 years, so I consider myself an "old" collector. I certainly marvel at your collection of Connecticut items.

I specialize in American colonial coins but also have United States coins and a large collection of paper money issued in the United States from colonial times to the present. I have a number of very nice items but, like all other collectors, have many holes.

I have 15 different Vermont cents, all in nice condition, including one which is unknown to Ryder. It has a mailed bust to the left like the 1787 and 1788 issues but has an entirely new reverse. I also have an American made imitation British half penny which is from the same die as the Vermont cent with the British imitation reverse. On your list you stated you had Vermont #35, which I presume is #31. I happen to have a duplicate of the VERMONTIS, and if you do not get a specimen in your auction we can arrange a trade.

In Connecticut I only collect major varieties, such as differences in spelling, facing right or left, mailed or draped, large or small head, etc. from each date. Most of mine are very fine to uncirculated. I have a number of specimens from Dr. Hall's collection, including the 1787 Hercules head and a 1787 mutton head with all lettering clear and strong.

I have a 1787 New Jersey cent struck over a 1788 Vermont cent, proving that New Jersey was still using its 1787 dies into or beyond 1788.

I am very envious of your Continental paper money as I am still lacking about ten items. Do you have any duplicates? I have the same sheet of blue notes which you have but I have no single blue notes, and I would like very much to see the contemporary counterfeits which you have. Would you be willing to send them to me for inspection, or if you have any duplicate counterfeits I would be most interested. I have approximately 500 different pieces of Colonial paper currency from all of the states but there are a lot of Connecticuts which I do not have. Do you have any duplicates there?

If you would enjoy it, I will have made and send you a photostat of the Miller 1(4)-WW along with two of the Connecticut imitations described by Betts.

I have a great many duplicates of miscellaneous items, and if you could give me a memorandum of what you might have in duplicate and what you might want from my duplicates I will be glad to work up a few exchanges. I do not expect to be able to do you any good in Connecticut.

Thank you for your most interesting letter, and I look forward to further correspondence with you.

Sincerely yours,

EPNewman/me

154 California St.
Stratford, Conn.
Feb. 27 1948

Dear Mr. Newman:

To say that I was pleased to hear from you again is putting it very mildly. I am glad that I have found another person interested in what I am. First lets tackle the Vermont cent subject. My #35 is most certainly not #31, ~~[illegible]~~. The #35 is just as I described it in the May 1947 NUMISMATIST, and a variety unknown to Ryder. On Feb. 19 I mailed you a complimentary copy of the Vermont reprint. Did you receive it? If it never reached you just let me know and I will mail you another. Your pet Vermont cent must be UNIQUE, You say mailed bust to left like the 1787 and 1788 issues but with an entirely new reverse. I have never seen or heard of a Vermont cent of 1787 or 1788 with head to left except #15. I would so much like to receive a rubbing of it. Your mention of the VERMONTIS interests me greatly, as I think it pretty doubtful if I ever get the one I bid on. Number 19 cannot be so very rare as Ryder only listed it as rarity three, but I do not as yet have it.

I have a few duplicates of Conn, cents but nothing much as to condition. among them the double chin and large head of 1786. No duplicates of Vermont except #25. I think I told you I stopped collecting bills from all colonies as I could not afford to keep it up, and I have some left of New York, New Jersey, Maryland and Delaware that I may get rid of sometime. I guess the best one is the 15 sh. New Jersey of the scarce date Feb 20 1776 and a fine specimen. Ihave no Continental duplicates except the #10 I told you of, and I shall not let that go. I am pleased to send for your inspection six supposedly counterfeits, one photostat, and one fac simile freak. and my #10. I shall be immencely pleased to get the photostat of the 1^{4}-WW and the immitations describes by Betts. Now does this interest you? I have some negative photostats of Conn. bills owned by the Conn. Historical Society of Hartford that I would be glad to loan you if

you would like to get positives for your collection, They are as follows. Complete uncut sheet of the rare Continental issue of May 20 1777 obverses ,and another of reverses of same,these being of the blue proof sheets.

Another sheet of five singles obverses of the Yorktowns, also blue proofs.

Still another sheet of the complete eight Yorktown obverses in singles owned by the Conn. Historical society.I suppose these are of course all genuine bills.and signed and numbered. If this offer meets with your approval you may retain my counterfeits until you have compared them with photostats and then return all at your leisure. You may think I have "strained at a gnat even if I have not swallowed a camel" so where you think I have drawn on my imagination I wish you would just eliminate with your blue pencil. Please let me know right away if you care to see photostat negatives. I have no Conn bill that I would want to part with except one of the little blue pence bills of Oct 11 1777,and signed by S. Bishop but the condition would not suit you I am sure.

I thought you would like to know the final disposition of Continental blue proofs in Conn. so I enclose an explanation.(don't return it)

Yours sincerely,

John H. Richardson,

P. S. My error, it is #30 the great rarity,#31 being not particularly rare.

PUBLIC RECORDS OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT (Vol.2 Page 290)

(Copy of resolutionrelating to Continental Proof Sheets)

Resolved by ~~the~~ this Assembly

That the proof sheets of the late emissions of Continental money sent into this state by order of congress and now in the hands of the Treasurer be disposed of in the following manner, viz: To the Governor one sheet, to the chief judge of the superior court one sheet, one to the clerk of the superior court, oj e to the Treasurer, and one to the secretary of this state, one to each county treasurer, one to each of the clerks of the county courts, one to each high sheriff of a county within this state, one to each State Attorney in this state, one to each town clerk in this state, one to each collector of State taxes; and the Treasurer is hereby directed to deliver the same accordingly, taking proper receipts for the same. The remainder of the said proofs shall remain in the custody of the Treasurer until he shall receive further orders from this Assembly or from the Governor and Council of safety; and that a copy of this resolve shall be lodged with the Treasurer for his direction therein.

March 8, 1948

Mr. John M. Richardson
154 California Street
Stratford, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Richardson:

I wish to thank you very much for your revision of the coins of Vermont which I have studied very carefully and enjoyed to a great extent. I am sorry that I was not called upon to furnish coins for illustrations as many of my specimens are far superior to any of those which are pictured.

Thanks to your hard work I have checked my Vermonts and now find that I have Ryder Richardson Nos. 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27, 31, 34 and 35. The one which I thought was unknown is an error, and the foregoing list is more accurate.

From a study of your counterfeits I find that I would have no difficulty in determining the British counterfeits of the May 20, 1777 issue or a Yorktown issue. It was for that reason that I wished to see your items so that I could check my own opinion. I am returning herewith the nine items you forwarded to me. I do not believe I need the prints of the two issues which were imitated by the British. What I will have to do first is to get more of those notes.

I have not forgotten the photographs that I am going to send you, but there will be a delay in sending them because I want to take them along with a number of other coins.

In the past I have written to Mr. Kurth and will do so as soon as I have an opportunity as he has certain of the imitation half pennies about which I would like to complete my research.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

EPNewman/me
Encls.

154 California St
Stratford, Conn.
March 11 1948

Dear Mr. Newman:

Yours with the enclosure received all right, and thanks

Now "Confession is good for the soul" they say, so I plead guilty to not being fool proof in my descriptions of Vermont cents in the monograph.

First, in the Ryder No.29 reverse, it should read Branch points just below the upright of E instead of D. On obverse of Ryder NO.13 I followed Ryder in saying three berries on wreath, Mr Kurth thinks it should be four, and very likely he is right, but the fourth comes way down at the base of the last leaf where the bow knot is tied. Dr. Black M.D. of Brattleboro Vermont calls attention to my saying "the stem of branch does not extend below hand" I am probably wrong here for while the stem does not extend below hand in any such way as in NO.10 still there are two little strings protruding slightly below as in the same reverse NO.12 where I have a nice specimen. My No.14 from which I described was not very sharp. Now it is your turn, Go ahead, you won't hurt my feelings. I was greatly pleased with your list. You have solved the mystery in the Notes and Queries Dept. of the Nov.1945 Numismatist entitled "Where is this Vermont cent?" (Illustration made from Crosby.) I feel sure Mr. Mosher would be very glad if you would drop a line to that Dep,t saying that you have the answer in your own collection. (Ryder No.34)

I was also much pleased that you also had NO.35 the same as Mr. Douglas and I have, with the same identical reverse as No.18 but a different obverse. What a pity that I did not know anything about you in connection with Vermont cents when I worked up the article. Mr. Mosher did everything he could to help in the way of getting illustrations for it. It seems just as though if he had known you he would have got me to contact you in the matter. The halftones in many instances are far from what I wish they were.

I was not successful in getting any VERMONTIS in the Seitz auction. He wrote me since that, (I quote a paragraph) "regarding your letters and lot #1367, I wish to say that these Colonials were classified by another party and I had not checked all before listing in Catalog." You mentioned having a duplicate, Would you be willing to send it on approval with price?

Yours sincerely, John H. Richardson.

March 18, 1948

Mr. Stuart Mosher, Editor
The Numismatist
McAllen, Texas

Dear Mr. Mosher:

In the November, 1947 Numismatist Mr. John J. Richardson wanted to know if the 1787 Vermont Cent illustrated in Crosby Plate V, #2, could be found. This variety was not listed in Ryder's "The Colonial Coins of Vermont" apparently because he found no specimen thereof. In the May, 1947 Numismatist Mr. Richardson added four varieties of the Vermont Cent to the Ryder classification and listed the above variety as #34.

This variety is in my collection and is readily distinguishable on the reverse from the reverse of Ryder Richardson Nos. 12, 14 and 32 by the fact that the left hand of the figure is on a line with the lettering, as compared to the others where the hand is entirely below the line of the lettering.

Sincerely yours,

EPNewman/me

March 18, 1948

Mr. John M. Richardson
154 California Street
Stratford, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Richardson:

I am enclosing a copy of the letter which I am writing to Mr. Mosher at your suggestion.

I want to call your attention to the fact that your #32 should be 1787 instead of 1788 in the listing and on the summary.

I am enclosing the VERMONTIS which I have, as I know you will enjoy having it. Since I very much prefer to exchange items, I am wondering whether you will part with any of your March 20, 1777 British counterfeits of continental currency. If you have any other suggestions as to an exchange, do not hesitate to let me know. The rarity of a VERMONTIS Cent is thoroughly unappreciated.

I cannot tell you how much I have learned about Vermont Cents after corresponding with you, and I have now started on a project to see if I can tie in the die varieties of the imitation British half pennies made in this country. I find I corresponded with Mr. Kurth many years ago on this subject.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

EPNewman/me
Encls.

154 California St.
Stratford, Conn.
March 23 1948

Dear Mr, Newman:

You don't know how pleased I am with the VERMONTIS. this word is sharp and clear and no one can say that it might have been a VERMONTS with letters indistinct. I have long wanted to obtain this coin and now I shall not feel easy until it is paid for, so please name your price as soon as you conveniently can. I have no duplicates in the line you mention.

You certainly have caught me cold, and brought me up standing, with a bang, for No.32 certainly is 1787 and not 1788. Thanks for the correction.

I think it is nice when friends can point out things to the other without offence, Now in referring to the letter you wrote to Mr. Mosher (and I am very glad you did) I am John M and not John J, In my monograph I only mentioned three varieties not known to Ryder Varieties 33---34 and 35. Very true No.32 is not mentioned in the main text of Ryders descriptions but you will find it briefly described in the Vermont additions and corrections. Ryder evidently heard of it in the eleventh hour, and now where is it? I wish I knew, but probably I never shall. It may or may not be unique. If you still have my last letter I feel sure you will find that I mentioned what is now called No.34 was in the Nov 1785 and not 1787 Numismatist. I am glad this variety is at last located, I had not myself noticed the position of the left hand in relation to the lettering, and now with that, and the branch hand being nearer to D of INDP and B of Lib being nearer to the shield than in No.14 you have three clinchers to prove you are right.

In a letter Mr. Hall Park McCullough of Bennington Vermont once wrote to Mr. Bryant he said "I think the only known specimen was owned by J. Carson Brevoort, I do not know what became of it" (This refers to Ryder No.5)

Have you ever heard of this Brevoort man and is he still living? Perhaps you can solve this for me, On my Ryder 8 it looks like PUBIICA, the bottom of L does not show even if it was an L (and the spacing is right for an I suppose you have a sharper specimen and what do you find in the L line.

Ryder gives it PUBLICA. Knowing that you are interested in only the more pronounced die varieties of Conn. cents I thought perhaps you would like the enclosed differences (Keep it) Why don't you write to Mr. Kurth again, for I believe that at the present time he knows more about the special feature that you are interested in than any one else.

Well I guess it is time for the Octogenarian to call a halt.

With regards,

John H. Richardson

Some different "ONLY" features in Connecticut cents.

1785 A---The only reverse of that year reading INDE ET LIB with no punctuations except colons

1786 A---the only reverse of that year reading ET LIB INDE
1786 8---the only obverse reading UCTORI (Unique)

1787 Obverse 1^1 and 1788 obverse 1 are identical, each having the smallest head of all, and a total combination of three different reverses.

The only Hercules head is 1786 obverse 3 and 1787 obverse 7 which are identical, and combined with four different reverses, three for 1786 and one for 1787

The only Mutton head is the 1787 obverse 1^2

The only so called Laughing head is 1787 obverse 6^1

1787 obverse 15 is the only one spelled CONNECT, and has three different reverses.
1787 obverse 15 is the only one with seven cinquefoils in legend;
1787 reverse F is the only one having one grapevine below and two above on the shield.

1787 obverse 38 is the only one spelled AUCIORI in the legend.

1787 reverse P has the liberty pole double. This seems a unique feature.

1787 reverse H is the only one having a pheon on each side of date.

1787 reverse S is the only one having a cinquefoil on each side of date.

1787 reverse F is the only reverse having eight cinquefoils in the legend.

1787 reverse R is the only one with the legend reading IND ET LIB.

1787 reverse R is the only one with eleven crosslets in the legend.

1787 reverse I is the only one of that year containing one group of four dots in legend

1787 reverse aa is the only with the reverse legend reading FNDE FTLIB

1787 obverse 8 is the only one of that year having three groups of four dots in legend

1788 reverse I is the only Connecticut cent having the British shield.

1788 reverse O is the only one of that year reading INDL ET LIB.

1787 reverse S is the only one of that year reading INDL ET LIB .
The only "Horned Bust" is obverse 4 of 1787
The only head with a double chin is 1786 obverse 1
The only African or negro head is 1785 4^1 and 4^2 (the latter very rare)
The only 1785 obverses with head to left are 7^1---7^2---and 8

April 23, 1948

Mr. John M. Richardson
154 California Street
Stratford, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Richardson:

With respect to the VERMONTIS which I sent you, I can only suggest that you keep your eyes open for me and see if you can find some American imitation British half pence dated from 1778 to 1788. All of those of the above mentioned dates are imitations. If you don't find any, perhaps you will have something else to exchange. I certainly would enjoy having your 1788[1]-I, but I don't know what could tempt you to part with it.

I received a nice letter from Mr. Mosher, indicating that he was going to publish the little comments I made and which you were kind enough to correct.

Thank you very much for all the major varieties of the Connecticut cents which you listed.

I have written Mr. Kurth, as you suggested, and I think I am in a position to assemble a good deal of information about imitation British half pence made in America, which is my worry for the moment.

Kindest regards to you.

Sincerely,

EPN/me

May 3, 1948

Mr. John M. Richardson
154 California Street
Stratford, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Richardson:

You apparently are the man to whom I must turn with my present problem.

I am trying to determine what Connecticut obverse dies were used with reverses dated in separate years. I note that obverse 7 of 1785 is the same as obverse 4(2) of 1786; that obverse 5(3) of 1786 is the same as obverse 7 of 1787; and that obverse 1(1) of 1787 is the same as obverse 1 of 1788. What I would like to know is whether there are any others which Miller may not have mentioned. I refer particularly to the draped bust varieties of 1788 which ought to be on 1787 coins. It appears to me that obverse 16(1) of 1788 should be the same as obverse 32(9) of 1787.

The foregoing can't be very much work with the specimens you have available.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/me

154 California st.
Stratford, Conn.
May 13 1948

Dear Mr. Newman:

I note your letter in the current number of the NUMISMATIST about the Ryder #34. It is nice to have this number finally located. I wonder if the whereabouts of #32 will ever be discovered.

I am enclosing a list of all additional identical different year combinations of Conn. obverses as well as the ones you know (this means all I could find.) I have been unable to find a reverse legend that is the same in two different years.

Now lets attack the Miller #55. He was dead wrong with that, for it is a draped and not a mailed bust. It is really a #32 and Mr. Bryant and I now consider this coin to be 32^4-F and it is evidently combined with 1788 16^4 Your discovery of 32^9 and 1788 16^1 I believe to be correct as I have examined the two coins.

Now you know there is quite a difference between parting sith a valued Collection die variety and a duplicate. My 1788 1-I has a horrible reverse but I can't bear to let it go. You stated that the VERMONTIS was a duplicate of yours and I feel grateful to you for letting me have it. I have no English counterfeit half pence between the dates you want either duplicates or otherwise. in fact I never branched out on that line. but since you asked about this feature I have written to one who deals with coins to some extent and is a long time acquaintance, asking him to send me what he has in these dates, and as I hear nothing I don't believe he has any.

Now evidently I have nothing you want in the way of exchange so please let me clean up what I owe you for the VERMONTIS, as I hate to have this hanging on indefinitely, so if you will just tell me I shall be greatly relieved, as I hate to be in debt for any coin.

Yours sincerely,

John M Richardson

CONN. CENT OBVERSES USED
IN DIFFERENT YEARS
MENTIONED BY MILLER

1785 7 and 1786 4[2]

1786 5[3] and 1787 7

1787 1[1] and 1788 1

1787 12 and 1788 8

CONN. CENT OBVERSES USED
IN DIFFERENT YEARS
NOT MENTIONED BY MILLER

1787 11[1] and 1788 7

1787 32[4] and 1788 16[4]

1787 32[9] and 1788 16[1]

1787 50 and 1788 17

May 20, 1948

Mr. John M. Richardson
154 California Street
Stratford, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Richardson:

Thank you very much for working out the obverse dies used in different dates.

With respect to the Vermontis, I do not want you to feel obligated to me. You may consider it a gift, but if you run into something in Connecticut, Vermont, counterfeit half penny, or Continental or State notes which I can use, you can make me a present some time. Your mind should, therefore, be at ease.

I have written to Mr. Howard Kurth but have not had a response from him. Do you carry on any correspondence with him? I am very much interested in seeing certain specimens in his collection in connection with a paper I am doing. I am sure he must be either out of the city or ill, for he would have answered me, as we carried on a correspondence many years ago. I would appreciate if you would advise me concerning him.

Sincerely yours,

EPNewman/mc

154 Califo nia St.
Stratford, Conn.
May 24 1948

Dear Mr. Newman:

Yours received, and I much appreciate your most kind gift offer. I believe you were more or less interested in the more unusual features of Connecticut cents, and I happen to have duplicates of the 1786 double chin cent, the only Connecticut cent like that so far as I know, and also the Large head cent of 1786 the largest of that year.

These are only in the ordinary run of condition and nothing to brag of. but if you do not have them and think you would like to see them I will gladly send them on, and you are welcome to them.

Just let me know at your earliest convenience.

Now about Mr. Kurth, a few years ago we had quite a thriving correspondence but it has fallen off of late, and it was so long since I had heard anything from him I began to think he was sick or something [redacted] he has been a close student of BETTS, and very much interested in the Conn. and Vermont cents interwoven with Brittish counterfeit half pence. I think you could find no one as well qualified as he to contact regarding that subject. So I would advise your keeping after him.

You have already given me a list of your Vermont cents, and I should be much interested in the number of your Conn cents. as this is my strongest point in the numismatic line.

Yours sincerely,

John M. Richardson.

September 13, 1948

Estate of John Richardson
154 California Street
Stratford, Connecticut

Dear friends:

Mr. Norman Bryant has just written me that he has purchased the Connecticut and Vermont coins of the late John Richardson. I had been carrying on a correspondence with Mr. Richardson, my last letter from him being dated May 24, 1948.

I gave him a coin which he had needed for a long time, and although he had nothing to exchange for it I told him that in due course he might have something. He did get a great deal of enjoyment out of receiving the coin I sent him.

Mr. Richardson permitted me to see some of his Continental Congress paper money and he indicated that he had a nice group of these items in his collection. He also indicated that he had a nice collection of Connecticut paper money. I am interested in purchasing the Continental Congress paper money, and if you desire to sell all the paper money at one time I will also buy the Connecticut paper money.

If you will be kind enough to advise me as to the number of items available and the price you wish to receive, I will appreciate it. If you have not set a price as yet, I suggest that you have Mr. Bryant, or any other person you select, give you suggestions along that line.

Sincerely yours,

EPNewman/me

bc: Mr. Norman Bryant